

REMARKS

The previously filed Amendment and claims filed December 18, 2003, is respectfully requested to be entered, which were rejected as raising new issues of newly included matter. Also, in the REMARKS portion of the Office Action, the Examiner states that"

"Applicant's argument that the angling of the spies cancels the RAT out entirely or provides the tire with a specific amount of RAT in order to match the suspension system is not commensurate in scope with the claims and is therefore not persuasive. None of the claims require canceling the RAT out entirely or providing the tire with a specific amount of RAT in order to match the suspension system."

The word "compensate" as used throughout the Specification and claims, and in particular new claim 19, indicates that the angling of the sipes can cancel the RAT out entirely, or provide it with a specific amount of RAT as set forth in the claims. Possible other words than compensate, such as changing, adjusting, varying, modifying, etc. could be used, or a more elaborate definition of designing for a specific value of tire RAT could replace the word compensate should the Examiner believe it is more definite. The word compensate had been used throughout to indicate that the RAT is adjustable or changed, etc. in order to provide for a specific amount or absence of RAT in a particular tire. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that should the Examiner still believe that the word compensate does not adequately define his invention, that one or more of the above terms could be utilized. His suggestions would be appreciated.